

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /009 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP/JL

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 199585

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (ALBERT, CARL), YO

SUBJECT: AUGUST 20/21 PRESS COVERAGE BOYCOTT

PLEASE DELIVER U.S. REP. THOMAS S. FOLEY (CODEL ALBERT)

HOTEL YUGOSLAVIA FROM BRANDT/MOOS

1. PRESS/CONTINUED FRONT PAGE TREATMENT LONGSHOREMEN'S BOYCOTT U.S. GRAIN SHIPMENTS TO SOVIET UNION WITH BOTH "TIMES" AND "POST" EMPHASIZING TEMPORARY ORDER BY U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE THAT HOUSTON ILA RESUME LOADING WHEAT BOUND FOR SOVIET UNION. FORD CALLED BOYCOTT "TRAGIC AND UNFORTUNATE IF THERE IS NOT SOME WAY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS CREATED BY THIS EMBARGO."

2. AUGUST 21 COVERAGE FRONT PAGE "TIMES", BUT INSIDE P.2, IN "POST". BOTH FOCUS ON "FORD VOWS TO END DISPUTE ON GRAIN" (NYT). SPEAKING IN VAIL PRESIDENT URGED ALL SIDES TO "COOL IT A BIT" AND PLEDGED TO RESOLVE BOYCOTT DISPUTE. QUOTED: "WE WANT TO SELL MORE, WE WILL SELL MORE" FORD ALSO TELEPHONED MEANY TO URGE MARITIME UNIONS RETURN TO WORK AND MET WITH VARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES WHEAT GROWERS (MTG GIVEN PLAY TODAY SHOW A.M.) "TIMES" REPORTED FORD SAYING "IF WE JUST LOWER OUR VOICES A BIT, I THINK WE CAN SOLVE THIS PROBLEM...FARMER WILL GET PRODUCT ON MARKET, UNCLASSIFIED

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WHERE IT OUGHT TO BE, AND THE CONSUMER'S INTERESTS
WILL LIKEWISE BE PROTECTED."

3. FOLLOWING STEPS REPORTED IN PRESS AS BEING TAKEN
ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT.

A. COMMERCE DEPT. MEETING WITH SOVIET NEGOTIATORS IN
EFFORT TO GAIN LARGER SHARE GRAIN SHIPMENTS U.S. BOTTOMS.

B. SEC LABOR DUNLOP "IN CONTACT WITH UNIONS RE
SETTLEMENT".

C. BUTZ AWAITING SEPT. 11 CROP REPORT BEFORE APPROVING
ADDITIONAL SALES SOVIET UNION. BUT ACCORDING FORD "IT
CERTAINLY ANTICIPATED THERE WILL BE FUTURE SALES ABROAD."

4. RAY DAVIS, INT'L TRADE DIRECTOR NAWG, SAID UNLESS
BOYCOTT THREAT REMOVED "IN FEW DAYS" PRODUCERS WILL
CONSIDER RETALITORY BOYCOTT OF UNION MADE FARM IMPLEMENTS,
U.S. AUTOS, ETC. AS WELL AS CONSIDER POLITICAL ACTION,
PERHAPS PRESSING FOR LEGISLATION TO FORCE SHIPMENT OF
GRAIN. IRV FRISHE, PRESIDENT WESTERN WHEAT GROWERS
REPORTED SAYING PRODUCERS CONSIDERING SHIPPING WHEAT TO
WEST COAST PORTS WHERE THERE IS NO BOYCOTT.

5. IN LENGTHY AUGUST 20 EDITORIAL "TIMES" CRITICIZED
BOYCOTT AS "BLACKMAIL;" SAID: "AS IF ADMINISTRATION
WERE NOT DOING ENOUGH IN OWN RIGHT TO MISHANDLE PROBLEM
OF SOVIET GRAIN SHIPMENTS AFL/CIO AND ITS RAPACIOUS
MARITIME UNIONS HAVE MADE A MESSY SITUATION MESSIER BY
REASSERTING RIGHT TO DICTATE FOREIGN POLICY BY ECONOMIC
MIGHT." ALTHOUGH SALE WILL BOOST INFLATION AND GIVES
GOOD PRETEXT FOR BOYCOTT REAL PURPOSE ACTION IS PRO-
TECTIONISM, AT GREAT COST TO CONSUMER. BOYCOTT IS
ATTEMPT TO HOLD GRAIN HOSTAGE FOR HIGHER CARGO PERCENTAGE
EVEN THOUGH LABOR COSTS AND FEATHERBEDDING MADE U.S.
SHIPS NON-COMPETITIVE. CONCLUDES ACTION "SIMPLY ANOTHER
FORM OF BLACKMAIL."

6. POAGE ISSUED PRESS RELEASE ON COMMITTEE RELEASE FORM:
"ILA SHOULD STAY OUT OF NATION'S TRADE POLICY AND LEAVE
IT TO RAINED SPECIALISTS WHO KNOW WHAT THEY ARE
DOING.

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7. COMMENT: MOVEMENT APPEARS TAKING PLACE TO PUSH FOR
HIGHER FREIGHT RATES (\$16.50 PER TON AS OPPOSED TO
CURRENT \$9.50) AND GREATER SHARE GRAIN SHIPPED U.S.
BOTTOMS. WITH COURT ORDER, BOYCOTT SITUATION HAS
EASED, AND TWO SHIPS NOW IN PORT BEING LOADED AND FOUR
MORE WAITING TO LOAD OVER WEEKEND. FARM ORGANIZATIONS
GEARING UP FOR MAJOR PUBLICITY EFFORTS AGAINST UNIONS

IF NECESSARY AND ARE MAKING SURVEY OF RANGE LEGAL OPTIONS

AVAILABLE TO KEEP DOCKERS ON JOB. IN MIDST ALL THIS FAS
HAS REDUCED ESTIMATE WORLD GRAIN STOCK LEVEL FOR THIS
YEAR TO 103.3 MILLION METRIC TONS, ONLY 3.7 MILLION
OVER LAST YEAR. WORLD GRAIN SITUATION WILL REMAIN TIGHT
AND LEVEL WILL CONTINUE TO BE SEEN AS THREAT TO WORLD
WIDE FOOD SUPPLY. MAW

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE199585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TPHDUNLOP/JL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750290-0152
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750829/aaaaazqw.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 DEC 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <06 JAN 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUGUST 20/21 PRESS COVERAGE BOYCOTT PLEASE DELIVER U.S. REP. THOMAS S. FOLEY (CODEL ALBERT)
TAGS: OREP, YO, (ALBERT, CARL)
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006